BIENNIAL REPORT

of the

Mississippi School For the Blind

TO THE GOVERNOR AND LEGISLATURE

FOR THE BIENNIUM

July 1, 1957 to June 30, 1959

BIENNIAL REPORT

1957 - 1959

GOVERNOR

James Plemon Coleman

MEMBERS OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Robert Gandy, Chairman	Jackson, Mississippi
Miss Helen Crooks, Secretary	Meridian, Mississippi
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James A. Blount	Charleston, Mississippi
J. M. Tubb	Jackson, Mississippi
J. E. McMullan	Newton, Mississippi

FACULTY AND STAFF

Superintendent and Principal	John W. Eakes
Business Manager and Physical Education	O. Walton Stewart
Secretary and Commercial Teacher	Miss Annetta Ray
Elementary Teacher	Miss Mazelle Estes
Elementary Teacher	Mrs. C. B. Holcombe
Elementary Teacher	Mrs. Charlie J. McCann
Elementary Teacher	Mrs. Carl H. Nowell
Elementary Teacher	Miss Annie Denman
Elementary Teacher	Miss Edith Alexander
Elementary Teacher	Mrs. W. H. Pickens
Elementary and Orchestra Teacher	Mrs. E. E. Allen
Elementary and Crafts Teacher	Mrs. Douglas LaPrade
Junior High Teacher	Mrs. Guy H. Bumpas
Jr.-Sr. High and Physical Education	Mrs. M. W. Lockey
English and Social Studies	Mrs. Clinton Van Devender
Homemaking and Science	Mrs. Eric Turner
Vocational and Shop	Carl H. Nowell
Piano Tuning Teacher (part time)	W. D. Caffey
Primary Music Teacher	Miss Marina Alexander
Vocal and Advanced Piano	Claude Smith, Jr.
Housemother, Girls' Dormitory	Mrs. Ruby Latham
Housemother, Boys' Dormitory	Mrs. Pearl F. Dean
Hostess, Supervisor Maids and Janitors	Mrs. Alline Lewis
Dietitian	Mrs. Elma Calhoun
Maintenance Man	Lee Nichols
Asst. Maintenance Man	J. B. Ward
Cooks, Maids and Janitors	

NEGRO SCHOOL FOR THE BLIND

Faculty and Staff

Principal and Teacher ..... Mrs. Martha Fox
Teacher ..... Ernestine Archie
Teacher ..... Henrietta Black
Teacher ..... Myrtis L. Jones
Teacher ..... Annie Lee Norman
Teacher ..... Jonas Brown
Teacher ..... Lennie Ross
Teacher ..... Carrie Lee Slater
Teacher ..... Alma Brumfield
Teacher (part time) ..... Charles W. Saulsbury
Teacher (part time) ..... Bernice Henderson
Housemother ..... Willie Mae Barlow
Maintenance and Grounds ..... Fair Johnson
Cooks, Maids and Janitor

DAILY SCHEDULE

6:30 A. M.—Rising Bell
7:15 A. M.—Breakfast, straightening and Cleaning Bedroom
8:15-9:00 A. M.—Devotional, First Period Class
9:00-9:30 A. M.—Classroom Work
9:30-10:15 A. M.—Classroom Work
10:15-10:30 A. M.—Recess
10:30-11:00 A. M.—Classroom Work
11:00-11:30 A. M.—Classroom Work
11:30-12:00 A. M.—Classroom Work
12:00-1:00 P. M.—Lunch and Noon Recess
1:00-1:30 P. M.—Classroom Work and Vocational Shop
1:00-2:00 P. M.—Classroom Work and Vocational Shop
2:00-2:30 P. M.—Classroom Work and Vocational Shop
2:30-3:00 P. M.—Classroom Work and Vocational Shop
3:00-3:30 P. M.—Classroom Work and Vocational Shop
3:30-5:30 P. M.—Physical Education and Free Time
5:30-6:30 P. M.—Evening Meal and Free Time
6:30-7:30 P. M.—Study Period
7:30-9:45 P. M.—Free Time
9:45 P. M.—Bed Time

COURSE OF STUDY

First Grade—Reading, Writing, Spelling, Number Work, Health, Music, and Language

Second Grade—Reading, Writing, Spelling, Arithmetic, Health, Music, and Language.

Third Grade—Reading, Writing, Spelling, Arithmetic, English, Music, and Health.

Fourth Grade—Reading, Writing, Spelling, Arithmetic, English, Music, Health, and Geography.

Fifth Grade—Reading, Writing, Spelling, Arithmetic, English, History, Geography, Music, Health, Speech, and Shop.

Sixth Grade—Reading, English, Arithmetic, Writing, Spelling, Health, Geography, Home Economics, Speech, Music, and Shop.

Seventh Grade—Reading, Writing, Spelling, English, Arithmetic, Health, Geography, Mississippi History, Home Economics, Speech, Typing, Piano Tuning, Vocational and Shop.

Eighth Grade—English, Arithmetic, Spelling, Health, Geography, Mississippi History, Home Economics, Speech, Typing, Piano Tuning, Vocational, Shop, and Crafts.

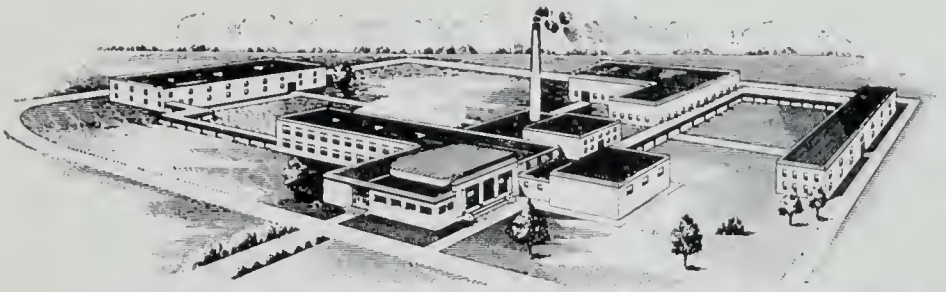
Ninth Grade—English, Business Arithmetic, Civics, Typing, Music, Home Economics, Piano Tuning, Speech, Vocational, Kennel, and Shop.

Tenth Grade—English, World History, Physiology and Hygiene, Algebra, Geography, Typing, Music, Home Economics, Piano Tuning, Speech, Vocational and Shop

Eleventh Grade—English, American History, General Science, Typing, Music, Home Economics, Piano Tuning, Speech, Gardening, Vocational and Shop, Mississippi History.

Twelfth Grade — English, American Government, Economics, Biology, Typing, Music, Home Economics, Piano Tuning, Speech, Gardening, Greenhouse, and Vocational.

Requirements for Graduation:
12 Academic Units; 6 Units in Industrial Arts, Typing, Music, or Home Economics.



THE MISSISSIPPI SCHOOL FOR THE BLIND

The Mississippi Institute for the Blind was established by the Mississippi Legislature in 1848. The school was located on North Jefferson Street in Jackson, Mississippi. An appropriation of Twenty-Five Hundred Dollars ($2500) was made for buildings and One Thousand Dollars ($1000) was appropriated for the operation of the school for one year. The Institute for the Blind was later changed to the Mississippi School for the Blind. The school remained on Jefferson Street until the session of 1864-1865 when it was moved to Monticello, Mississippi during the later part of the War Between the States. It was moved back to North Jefferson Street after the war, and continued to operate at this location until 1882 when a new school was constructed on North State Street on 14 acres of land purchased by the trustees of the School for the Blind from a gift of William C. Johnson. The school remained at North State Street until 1951 when a more modern school plant was constructed on New Highway 51 North at Eastover Drive for the white blind children, and the Negro blind children were transferred from the Piney Woods Farm Life School to a new Negro school for the Blind which was constructed on Capers Avenue at Green Street in West Jackson.

The Legislature appointed a board of trustees of five members to operate the Mississippi Institute for the Blind which had been operated by the board of trustees of the University of Mississippi which was established the same year as the Mississippi School for the Blind. Within a few years, a special board of five members was appointed by the governor and approved by the State Senate for the operation of the School for the Blind and the School for the Deaf. These trustees were to submit a report the first week of the regular session of the Legislature and report the progress of the school and the needs for the ensuing year. From 1932 to 1936, the Mississippi School for the Blind was operated by the Board of Eleemosynary Institutions. In 1936, the Legislature enacted the law which im-

powered the governor to appoint a three member board to operate the Mississippi School for the Blind and Deaf. In 1944, the Mississippi Legislature reorganized the Schools for the Blind and Deaf and made provisions for a board of seven members to be appointed by the governor for periods of one to seven years and then to appoint one member each year thereafter to serve a full seven year term.

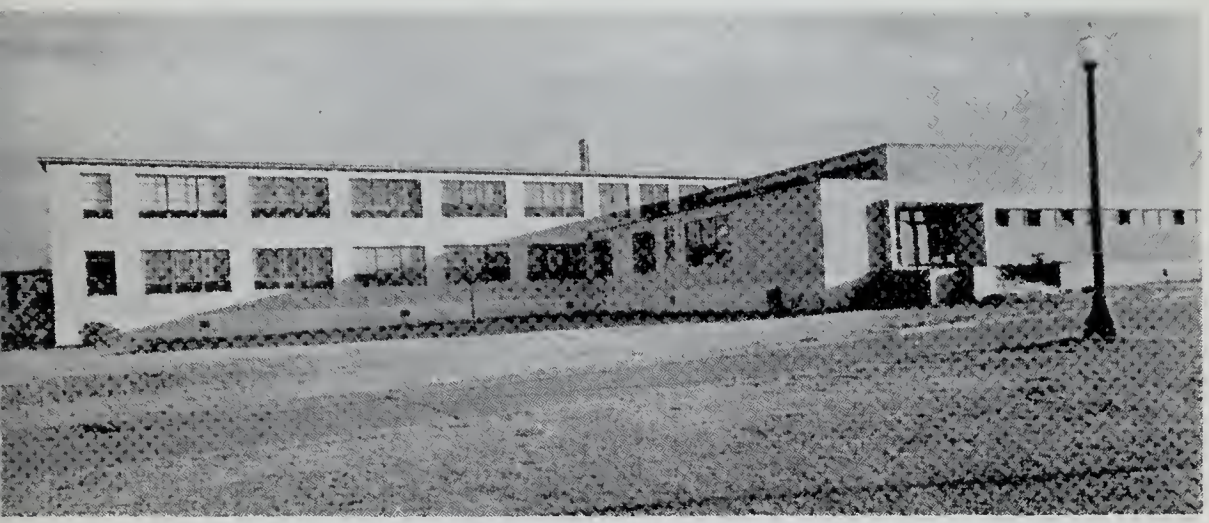
LAWS UNDER WHICH SCHOOL WAS ESTABLISHED

The Mississippi School for the Blind, a state institution for the blind, was established by the legislature in 1848, chapter 47, page 153.

Section 6785-10, Mississippi Code of 1942 Annotated, provides for establishing a Negro school for the blind in addition to schools for the white deaf and blind and Negro deaf. In the second paragraph of this section, we find the following: "Immediately after the new buildings and plants for said institution shall have been constructed on the properties designated therefor under the provisions of this act and said buildings occupied for the schools for the blind and the schools for the deaf, as aforesaid, the present sites on which said institutions are now located, except that part of the present site on which the school for the deaf is located which is retained by the building commission as the permanent site for the colored schools for the deaf and blind, shall be vacated by said institutions and title to the property thus vacated, and on which the said institutions are now located shall be conveyed by the board of trustees of said institutions to the state building commission, to be disposed of by the state building commission as the legislature may direct." However, in 1946 the Mississippi Legislature made an appropriation of $2,400,000 with which to build new schools for the white blind, white deaf, Negro blind, shop for Negro deaf, and renovate the building for the Negro deaf. This appropriation was not used until 1948 due to the fact that New Highway 51 had not been located by the State Highway Department. This made it impossible for the building commission to locate the sites for the different schools. The site for the white School for the Blind was located on New Highway 51, north of Eastover Drive on state owned land. The Negro School for the Blind was located on part of the land of the old School for the Deaf on Capers Avenue at Green Street.

The White School for the Blind had 51 students in September 1944, and enrolled 94 during the past year. The Negro blind children of Mississippi were transferred from Piney Woods Farm Life School to the new location on Capers Avenue in January 1951. The total enrollment last session was 75, making a total of 169 students in the Mississippi Schools for the Blind last session. This enrollment tripled the 1944 enrollment, teach-

ers were doubled in number, and quadrupled in salary. Other expenses such as food, maintenance, and other salaried employees have increased the cost of operation. In spite of the skyrocketing of the above items, the operation of the school costs approximately $200 per pupil more in 1958-1959 than it cost in 1944-1945. We believe that this is as small an increase percentage wise as any institution in Mississippi.



Administration - School Building

ELIGIBILITY OF PUPILS

1. "A student shall not be admitted to or continue as a pupil in the state school for the blind, whose acuity of vision is, or becomes, habitually greater than fifty per centum (50%) of normal vision." "Children under the age of six (6) years shall not be admitted to the state school for the blind. No person shall be admitted to the institution as a pupil who is not a bona fide resident of the state or who is not of good moral character." Other rules and regulations for admission are fixed by the Board of Trustees. See section 6785-06, Mississippi Code of 1942 annotated.

2. A licensed physician examines the eyes of the children and makes a report to the superintendent of the school. If this examination is satisfactory in that it shows that the child meets the visual requirements, then the superintendent visits the home of the child and talks to the child and his parents. If he is convinced that the child has sufficient intelligence to profit by the instruction at the school, and his physical condition does not prevent him from studying braille, he is admitted. If on the other hand, the pupil seems unable mentally to profit by instruction on account of the lack of mental ability, the parents may have the child examined by a state psychologist of the State Welfare Department, the State Health Department, or a

psychiatrist of the State Medical School. The superintendent accepts the report of either of the above mentioned examinations.

CURRICULUM

"The school shall provide requisite facilities for every pupil therein to acquire as complete a literary and musical education as practicable; and shall provide and maintain an industrial department in which expert instruction shall be given in such trades and crafts as may be suited to render the pupil therein self-sustaining in after life." Second paragraph of section 6785-06, Mississippi Code of 1942 Annotated.

The Mississippi School for the Blind has a literary department consisting of twelve grades. Both the elementary and secondary departments have an "A" rating which was given by the Mississippi Accrediting Commission. In addition to the literary work, the school has a commercial department which gives instruction in typewriting, dictaphone training, and other office practices. The music department consists of instruction in piano, voice and orchestral instruments. The industrial department for girls consist of training in home economics which includes cooking, sewing, laundering, household duties and infant care. The crafts consist of weaving, basketry, ceramics and other hand crafts. The boys receive instruction in woodworking on the lathe, chair caning, greenhouse, kennel, orcharding, and general mechanical and electrical training necessary for repairs in the home. The piano tuning department consist of instruction given in the tuning and repair of all kinds of pianos.

QUALIFICATIONS OF TEACHERS

Since we are accredited by the State Accrediting Commission, the teachers must meet all educational requirements of the public schools. In addition, the teachers must learn braille and go to school a minimum of one term in the summer every four years. They are requested to take child psychology, methods of teaching slow learners, methods of teaching the blind, and the psychology of blindness. Recently the Southern Regional Educational Board has made provision for courses in training teachers for instruction of the blind at Peabody College, Nashville, Tennessee.

PRESENT NEEDS

The Schools for the Blind need a vocational shop building for Negro children, two part-time nurses, two literary teachers, one shop teacher, and a raise in teacher salaries commensurate with recommendations of MEA and recommended by all candidates for Governor.

Dormitory, Negro School for the Blind

Troop 38, Boy Scouts of America, Andrew Jackson Council, sponsored by North Jackson Lions Club, has often been host to the monthly Court of Honor. The above picture represents an impressive opening ceremony with Troop 38 in charge.

Through the cooperation and encouragement of the Garden Clubs of Mississippi, students from the Vocational Department displayed plants grown as a part of their vocational training at the State Garden Club Show during the Men's National Garden Club Convention held in Jackson.

Training in showmanship is part of the Registered Dog Kennel project of the Vocational Department. The Kennel holds membership in the Central Mississippi Fox Hunter's Associa-

tion, and showed seven Foxhounds in their dog show. This project and the greenhouse unit serves as a teaching program for the boys in the teaching of skills, salesmanship, carrying out designated responsibilities, and meeting the public.

The students are assigned full responsibility under supervision of the teacher. Records are kept on all phases of the projects, and the student receives that part of the profit up to twenty-five dollars at the completion of the projects. The profit above twenty-five dollars is deposited in a savings account in the student's name until he graduates or withdraws from school.

General Information

Location—The school is located on U. S. Highway 51 north at Eastover Drive in the city of Jackson, Mississippi. Mailing address: 1252 Eastover Drive, Jackson 6, Mississippi.

Medical Care — The school furnishes ordinary medical care for all of the children. Emergency dental work, treatments, and yearly check-up are provided by the school. Chest X-ray and typhoid immunization are provided each year through the State Department of Health. Parents and guardians are kept well informed as to the condition of their children and in case of serious illness, are immediately notified by telephone or telegraph.

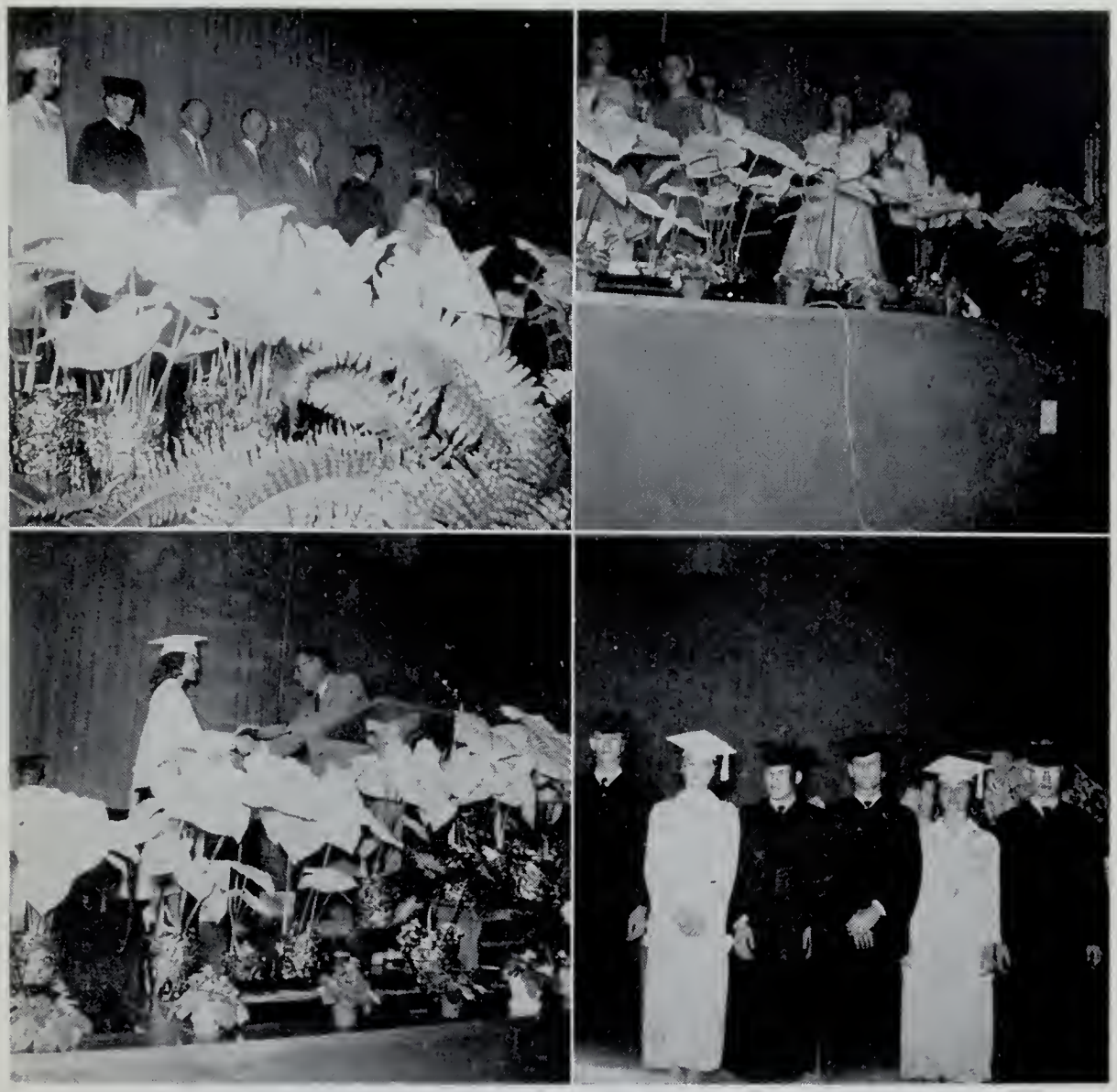
Housemothers — Housemothers are employed to supervise the children during the hours when they are not in the classrooms. Through this means the administration strives to duplicate as far as possible the home environment.

Dietary — A dietitian and staff are employed with the foremost thought that the food served is of vital importance. During the year well balanced and carefully prepared meals suitable for the growing children are served. A blind boy or girl needs a strong healthy body. In order to build this kind of physique a good balanced diet is needed.

Responsibility of Parents — Parents or Guardians are required to:

1. Provide transportation to and from the school.
2. Provide adequate clothing, plainly marked with full name of child.
3. Provide personal essentials such as toilet articles, and enough money for haircuts and other minor personal needs.
4. Advise the Superintendent at once whenever there is contagious disease in the pupil's home so that proper precaution can be taken.
5. Encouraged to correspond with children and to take them home for week-ends other than those scheduled and to visit them at the school as long as this does not hinder their educational progress.

Graduates of the Class of 1959



The 1959 graduating class of the Mississippi School for the Blind was one of the largest and best all-'round classes in the history of the school. The scholastic standing, as well as vocational aptitude and training has been excellent. Four members of the class will enter college in September. They have successfully competed in local and state essay contests, have shown much ability in the music field, and have been outstanding in athletics as members of the school track teams. These boys and girls have gotten a well rounded education in all departments of the Mississippi School for the Blind.

ENROLLMENT
July 1, 1957 to June 30, 1959
White

Girls —

Anderson, Myra Sybil	Brandon
Bounds, Janis	Newton
Bounds, Linda	Newton
Breland, Faye	Richton
Brewer, Barbara	Yazoo City
Brown, Anita Faye	Laurel
Burke, Frances Laverne	Tillatoba
Carlock, Nancy Gale	Guntown
Carroll, Dolly Luenell	Summit
Davis, Virginia	Jackson
Douglas, Clydelia	Union
Dunn, Paula Joyce	Brookhaven
Faine, Bobbie Sue	DeKalb
Floyd, Rebecca Ann	Sardis
Ford, Rita Faye	Laurel
Goins, Tommie Louann	New Albany
Gordon, Mattie Yvonne	Batesville
Hudgens, Jean Elizabeth	Horn Lake
Jaggers, Susan Elaine	Jackson
Jennings, Brenda	Blue Mountain
LaPrade, Peggy Jane	Pontotoc
Lumpkin, Julia Faye	Carriere
Luoma, Lynn Lanier	Jackson
Miller, Jessie Mae	Coldwater
Mims, Deborah Louise	Jackson
Myers, Louise Aileen	Jackson
Power, Karla Kay	Jackson
Powers, Dorothy Louise	Jackson
Reed, Ada Kathryn	Brookhaven
Robinson, Doris Anna	New Albany
Ross, Joycelyn Louise	Biloxi
Shaidnagle, Ella	Laurel
Soloman, Catherine	Fulton
Strickland, Elizabeth Dianne	Osyka
Wade, Judy Frank	Jackson
Weaver, Bobbie Charleen	Clinton
Williams, Lorraine	Jackson
Wilson, Tommie Laverne	Magnolia
Zachry, Betsy Dawn	Jackson

Boys —

Anderson, Dan Henry	Brandon
Arnold, Billy Wayne	Natchez
Beard, William	Union
Beck, Jim Tom	Eupora

Benke, William	Jackson
Benson, Kerry Donald	Jackson
Bishop, Joe	Conehatta
Boyd, Billy	Columbus
Brashears, Edward	Gulfport
Busby, Frankie Lee	Tunica
Case, Doyle	Brookhaven
Clemons, David Lamar	Greenville
Collins, Clinton Gary	Waynesboro
Cowart, Ernest	Biloxi
Cowart, Harold	Biloxi
Crane, Gerald Max	Jackson
Dunlap, Charles	Olive Branch
Dement, Luther	Ovett
Dorsey, Larry	Jackson
Ferrell, Tony	Jackson
Grant, James Edward, Jr.	Gulfport
Harris, Harold Randal	Jackson
Harrison, James Aubry	Houston
Hansford, Truman Gerald	West
Hewes, Roger Dale	Gulfport
Hughes, Willard Wayne	Bailey
Jackson, Finley, Jr.	McComb
Jacobs, Larry	Lawrence
Kennerson, Benny	Biloxi
Lackey, Marion	Philadelphia
Mayfield, Billy Vaughn	Collins
Melton, Jerry Wayne	Bruce
Melton, Joe Willie	Bruce
Mitchell, Jimmy	Meridian
Moore, James Coleman	Laurel
Moody, Robert Lamar	Brooklyn
McGaugh, Donald Hugh	Jackson
McMillan, Len Ray	Jackson
Neely, Arthur Dennis	Jackson
O'Neal, Michael	Aberdeen
Pugh, Bobby	Louin
Ramsay, Lee Y.	Columbia
Roberts, George Allen	Greenville
Robinson, Charlie White	Hattiesburg
Reed, Kenneth	Brookhaven
Sarles, Richard	Jackson
Shaidnagle, Joe	Laurel
Shelden, Ivan	Gulfport
Smith, Benjamin	Brookhaven
Steen, Douglas	Kosciusko
Tucker, John	Jackson
Turnage, Cecil Pat	Biloxi
Turnage, Jimmy Wayne	Biloxi
Turnage, Roy Barry	Biloxi

Turner, Harvey Joe ..... West Point
Upchurch, Robert Taylor ..... Itta Bena
Voss, Carl William, Jr. ..... Gulfport
Warrington, Herman Ray ..... Yazoo City
Whitfield, Gerald ..... Picayune

Colored

Ammon, Roger ..... Greenwood
Arnold, Eva Faye ..... Greenville
Baker, Jessie Mae ..... Jackson
Ball, Catherine ..... Foxworth
Ball, Emma Jean ..... Foxworth
Bradley, Aaron ..... Natchez
Brown, Fred Lee ..... Vicksburg
Carson, Camelia ..... Belzoni
Carter, A. E. ..... Jackson
Carter, Clyde ..... Hernando
Catching, Willie Mary ..... Tougaloo
Coleman, Rosie Lee ..... Inverness
Cook, William ..... Oxford
Cooper, Lillian ..... Louisville
Cotton, Edward D. ..... Jackson
Crawford, Gail ..... Jackson
Dabney, Wallace ..... Crystal Springs
Diming, Clarence ..... Tutwiler
Dixon, Elvin Marten ..... Woodville
Duckworth, Helen Ray ..... Taylorsville
Edwards, Essie Lee ..... Carthage
Evans, Charles Earl ..... Jackson
Foster, Sears Michael ..... Natchez
Foster, Walter ..... Natchez
Gatewood, Vennie Mae ..... Harperville
Gordon, Catherine ..... Macon
Grihm, Sammie ..... Liberty
Hardy, Samuel ..... Meridian
Harris, Clarence ..... Jackson
Hatchett, Vera Mae ..... Jackson
Holmes, Omie Jean ..... Lake
Hopson, Beautrice ..... Kewanee
Horton, Lucy Mae ..... Coffeeville
Howard, Dorothy Jean ..... Glen Allen
Hughes, Lonnie ..... Kosciusko
Jackson, John Hilbert ..... Brandon
Johnson, Georgia Mae ..... Leland
Jones, Holitan ..... Okolona
Kees, Ernestine ..... Brookhaven
Lee, Ruth ..... Jackson
Lockett, James ..... Tibbett
Louis, Willie Cry ..... Jackson
Magee, Ralph ..... Collins

McAllister, Jessie ..... Coahoma
McBride, Margarette ..... Jackson
McDonald, James Earl ..... Taylorsville
McPhearson, Annie Rine ..... Pontotoc
Miller, Willie ..... Philipp
Millsaps, Flourine ..... Rolling Fork
Morris, Velma Lee ..... Stoneville
Montgomery, Mable L. ..... Saucier
Montgomery, Paul ..... Saucier
Moore, Jessie, Jr. ..... Biloxi
Neal, Thelma Louise ..... Sledge
Penerman, Robert J. ..... Jonestown
Pierce, La Morris ..... Clarksdale
Pitts, Georgia L. ..... Greenville
Price, Lanette ..... Baldwyn
Ramsey, Clara Mae ..... Meridian
Ridley, Mary Ann ..... Natchez
Ross, Dwight ..... Tougaloo
Saffold, Dorothy Mae ..... Lexington
Schaffer, L. J. ..... Bentonia
Smith, Beaulah ..... Jackson
Thomas, Ruby Louise ..... Clarksdale
Thompson, Barbara Jean ..... Tougaloo
Trotter, Angie Pearl ..... Pachuta
Walker, Scott ..... Meridian
Warren, Lafayette ..... Hattiesburg
White, Patricia Ann ..... Jackson
White, Sybel ..... Noxapater
Williams, Ezekiel ..... Pascagoula
Woodall, Shirley Ann ..... Oxford
Woods, Elvia ..... Mound Bayou

TRAVEL

Delegates of the Mississippi School for the Blind to the Biennial Workshop of the American Association of Instructors of the Blind held in Vancouver, Washington, June 1958, were Mrs. E. E. Allen, Miss Marina Alexander, Miss Annie Denman, and Mrs. Ruby Latham. Due to lack of state funds, these delegates received assistance in the amount of $800.00 from special restricted funds of the Mississippi School for the Blind.

Expenses of Superintendent John W. Eakes to the Annual Meeting of the Board of Trustees of the American Printing House for the Blind, Louisville, Kentucky:

October 1957 ..... $66.37

October 1958 ..... $59.42

Books and other teaching supplies and materials are furnished by the American Printing House for the Blind, Louisville, Kentucky.

School travel in private car for visiting prospective students and other necessary out of city travel for the Mississippi School for the Blind from July 1, 1957 through June 30, 1959 totaled 3,655.4 miles. Reimbursement of $255.88 was made to the Superintendent for this travel at the rate of seven cents per mile.

John W. Eakes, Superintendent